



Eastern Arizona Type II Incident Management Team

Bear Paw Fire June 29, 2006

Acres: 3200 Containment: 90% Cause: Downed Power Line Personnel: 352
Helicopters: 1 Engine's: 11 Dozers: 3 Type 1 Crews 4 Type 2 Crews 6

Fire Information Number (505) 429-1060

After today please call either (505) 438-7877 or 438-7628 for Information.

The Bear Paw Fire which started on Saturday, June 24 at 3 pm is located approximately 2 1/2 miles northwest of Regina, N.M. and 1 mile west of Gallina Plaza. It is burning in sagebrush, Piñon, juniper, ponderosa pine, and mixed conifer.

Yesterday's Activities: For the first time this week, weather was not an issue on the fire. The complete story today was all the good hard work the fire fighters accomplished. Fire fighters put in a long day on their respective divisions. Continuing to work toward the goal of no heat for 3 to 4 chains in from the containment lines, the crews used the following methods. First they look for heat that is visible from the perimeter and then they extinguish it, or mop it up. After they reach a point where no more smoke is visible, then they begin the gridding process. Gridding is searching for a small fire by systematically traveling over an area on parallel courses or gridlines. Picture 20 firefighters in a line with enough space between them so they will not cause any safety issues, moving on a parallel course. They move slowly and deliberately searching for heat, using all of their senses. So, in that case the hotter and drier weather, which aids combustion, actually helped us today.

Thursday June 29, 2006: We will continue today with the same tactics, securing the line and mopping up. Today's weather will aid us once again. With the temperatures getting hotter and the humidity going lower, if there is heat out there it should become easier to identify. As crews are doing this work they will also be working on rehab efforts.

Resources are being demobilized, with the majority of the personnel being released tomorrow. There will be 4 crews left on the fire to finish up the work needed to be done.

Smoke from the fire area will be seen by nearby communities for several days.

This will be the last update from the Type 2 Team!!!!